

**City of Milpitas
Economic Development Commission
Monday, August 8, 2005 6:00 PM**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

I. Flag Salute

Vice Chair DeSmidt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll

Commissioners Present:

Dhaval Brahmbhatt	Minh Nguyen
Frank De Smidt	Donald Peoples
Ray Maglalang	Vincent Songcayawon
Tomo Tung Nguyen	Mike Mendizabal (for Barbara Santos)

Late Arrival: Dhaval Brahmbhatt

Commissioners Absent: Pat Songsiri; Charlene Tsao

Council Liaison: Mayor Jose Esteves

City Staff Present: Cindy Maxwell, Linda Sinclair

III. Announcements

Vice Chair De Smidt reported that the Council approved the Economic Strategic Plan and the Milpitas Art and Wine Festival will be held August 20-21.

Chairman Brahmbhatt arrived and assumed meeting leadership. He reported on recent nanotechnology meetings. Commissioner Maglalang reported on Neighborhood Night Out. Alternate M. Nguyen informed the Committee that August 17 is the last day for the Farmers' Market to operate at its present location.

Mayor Esteves stated that there is a vacancy for a hotel representative and encouraged Commissioners to refer interested persons. Commissioner Peoples announced that Honda of Milpitas closed and that Milpitas Motor Sports will reopen in its place.

IV. Citizens Forum

Richard Ruth, resident, addressed the Commission on several topics.

Chairman Brahmbhatt appointed Alternate M. Nguyen to the vacant Commission position.

V. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.

M/S: DeSmidt/Songcayawon

Ayes: All Noes: None Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

VI. Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2005

Motion to approve the June 13, 2005 minutes as submitted.

M/S: DeSmidt/T. Nguyen

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

Commissioner Peoples requested better tracking of requested agenda items. Maxwell clarified that items are placed on the agenda by the Chair or Vice Chair or a majority vote of the Commission.

VII. Unfinished Business

1. Draft Implementation Plan

Commissioner Peoples indicated he was uncomfortable proceeding with discussion of the draft Implementation Plan and recommended the Commission hear comments from the new Economic Development Manager.

Maxwell reported the recruitment status of the Economic Development Manager position. Chairman Brahmbhatt noted that he was impressed with the experience of the candidates for the position. He also thanked the City Council for approving the Economic Strategic Plan ("Plan").

Extensive discussion followed regarding when to obtain input from the new Economic Development Manager.

Commissioner Mendizabal asked that Objective 5D be clarified ("Improve Milpitas students' preparation for tomorrow's careers and life-long-learning needs"). Discussion followed regarding data on academic performance in Appendix D of the Plan and the intent of Objective 5D. Mayor Esteves described the relationship between school quality and the City's image.

Commissioner Peoples reiterated his opinion that the Commission should not take action on the draft Implementation Plan until input from the new Economic Development Manager is received. The Chairman suggested approving the draft as a working document or summary plan and make revisions at a later date.

Motion to approve the draft Implementation Plan after the Commission conducts an item-by-item review of it, continuing the discussion to the next meeting if necessary.

M/S: Songcayawon/T. Nguyen

Commissioner Songcayawon indicated the Commission needed to more thoroughly review the draft Implementation Plan. The Chairman pointed out that a line-by-line review could take a considerable amount of time. Commissioner T. Nguyen suggested that the Commission only review the items with a price tag. Commissioner Mendizabal expressed concern for the accuracy of data reported on the school district.

Motion Amendment: Continue the pending motion to later in the meeting and proceed with "New Business" agenda items.

M/S: Songcayawon/T. Nguyen

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

VIII. New Business

2. *Milpitas Post Letter*

Commissioner T. Nguyen asked if the Commission should respond to a letter published in the *Milpitas Post* on June 30. Discussion followed with the consensus that the Commission should not respond to the letter.

3. Eminent Domain Policies

Commissioner Brahmbhatt noted that this item is in response to a recent Supreme Court decision on eminent domain. Mayor Esteves indicated this is a legal issue and the Commission should hear from a city attorney. Commissioner De Smidt described how the City's eminent domain policies relate to the City's image. The Commission discussed how the City might need an eminent domain policy for the Midtown area and recent City actions using eminent domain for the library building project.

Motion to direct staff to evaluate the need for a formal eminent domain policy under the implementation of Objective item 1.A2 ("Refine economic development policies to be consistent with brand strategy").

M/S: DeSmidt/Maglalang

Ayes: Brahmbhatt, DeSmidt, Maglalang, Mendizabal, M. Nguyen, T. Nguyen, Songcayawon

Noes: None Abstain: Peoples Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

Commissioner Peoples indicated he abstained from the motion because it was not clear.

1. Draft Implementation Plan (continued)

Motion that the Commission approve the items connected to proposed budget needs and then all other items in draft Implementation Plan by the end of the next Commission meeting.

M/S: Songcayawon/T. Nguyen

Ayes: Brahmbhatt, DeSmidt, Maglalang, M. Nguyen, T. Nguyen, Songcayawon

Noes: Mendizabal, Peoples Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

IX. Next Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Peoples asked that the Commission begin developing an outline of proceeding with the draft Implementation Plan to insure existing city policies agree with Economic Development policies. He suggested, as examples, allowing compact parking spaces in commercial developments and impervious area requirements for residences.

Motion to place a discussion of the Commission's role and work plan for the future at the beginning of the agenda for the September meeting.

MS: Peoples/ Maglalang

Discussion followed regarding the intent and need for the motion.

Ayes: Maglalang, M. Nguyen, Peoples

Noes: Brahmbhatt, DeSmidt, Mendizabal, T. Nguyen, Songcayawon

Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

Motion failed.

Motion to extend the meeting for 10 minutes.

M/S: Maglalang/T. Nguyen

Ayes: Brahmbhatt, DeSmidt, Maglalang, Mendizabal, M. Nguyen, T. Nguyen, Songcayawon
Noes: Peoples Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

The Commission discussed the Economic Strategic Plan and its approval by the City Council. Commissioner Mendizabal expressed concern about the accuracy of data on education in the Plan's Appendix. Commissioner Songcayawon suggested that Objective 5.D1 incorporate vocational and technical careers in its scope. There was further discussion about the need to promote quality math and science skills.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:15 p.m.

M/S: Peoples/Maglalang

Ayes: All Noes: None Absent: Songsiri, Tsao

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sinclair and Cynthia Maxwell